

Canada



Discover
an Island

Discover an Island ...

Prince Edward Island, land of bright red soil, green velvet fields and long white beaches, where the potato is still king and Anne of Green Gables reigns secure in the hearts and minds of Islanders, is a small but important land mass just off the east coast of North America. It is also Canada's smallest province, 170 km from tip to tip as the crow flies, with a population of 123,000. Crescent-shaped, the Island rests serenely in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, curved within the contours of the Maritime provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. Indeed, its first visitors, the Micmacs, called it *Abegweit* or "land ... cradled on the waves." It has been known also as the *Cradle of Confederation* since 1864 when the country's founding fathers met in Charlottetown to discuss a united Canada.

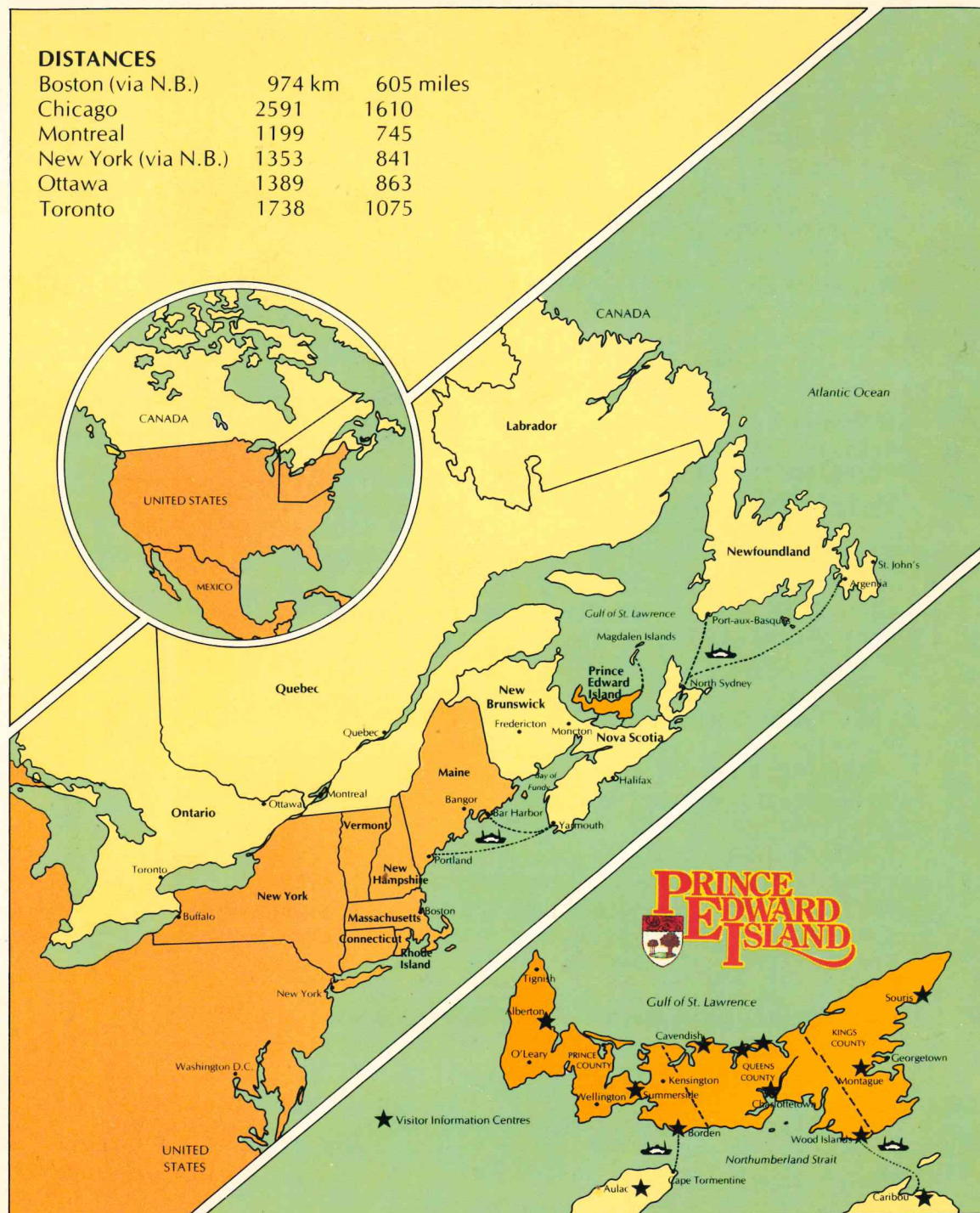
The three counties of Prince, Queens and Kings and 67 townships were created in 1865 by a British surveyor after the Island had been won from the French, original inhabitants of "Ile St-Jean." Shipbuilding in the mid-1800's and later silver fox farming joined agriculture and the fishery for a time as the Island's economic mainstays.

Today, tourism is the second-largest and fastest-growing industry. Huge modern ferries ply the narrow Northumberland Strait from two Island terminals, bringing over half a million visitors to the province each year. The largest ship carries up to 900 passengers and the equivalent of 250 automobiles at each crossing. In peak seasons, crossings are increased to provide continuous service during hours of operation.

To discover an Island and its people, read on. . .

DISTANCES

Boston (via N.B.)	974 km	605 miles
Chicago	2591	1610
Montreal	1199	745
New York (via N.B.)	1353	841
Ottawa	1389	863
Toronto	1738	1075





Panmure Island



Transportation

HOW TO REACH US

BY FERRY

- From New Brunswick the 14-km crossing on CN Marine Ferries takes 45 minutes between Cape Tormentine, N.B. and Borden, P.E.I.
- From Nova Scotia, Northumberland Ferries Ltd. makes the 22-km trip in 75 minutes, between Caribou, N.S. and Wood Islands, P.E.I.
- From the Magdalen Islands, Que., the 5-hour trip is 134 km long, between Cap-aux-Meules and Souris, P.E.I.

BY AIR, to Charlottetown from Canadian cities

- Ottawa, 1½ hours, Air Canada
- Toronto, 3 hours, Air Canada
- Halifax, 30 mins., Eastern Provincial Airways
- Montreal, 80 mins., Eastern Provincial Airways

BY AIR, from the United States and Overseas

- Boston to Halifax, Air Canada
- New York to Montreal, Air Canada, Delta, Eastern
- New York to Toronto, Air Canada, American Airlines, U.S. Air
- Overseas, to Halifax

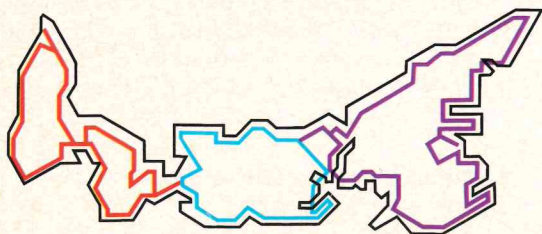
Information

VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRES

In the summer months, friendly travel counsellors operate out of 12 provincial Visitor Information Centres — 10 on the Island and two on the mainland, at Caribou, Nova Scotia, and Aulac, New Brunswick. Locations are shown on the map opposite.

Bilingual staff are trained to help visitors plan an Island vacation with general or detailed information on accommodations, camping, attractions, local events, festivals, recreation, beaches, parks, goods and services. They will also reserve accommodations in advance or on short notice. All services are free of charge. The central VIC in Charlottetown (902/892-2457) is open year round, or write us at Prince Edward Island Tourism, Visitor Services, P.O. Box 940, Charlottetown, Canada C1A 7M5.

Scenic Drives



Tracing three roughly circular routes around the Island's picturesque coastline, the scenic drives explore a wealth of natural, historic and man-made features.



THE LADY SLIPPER SCENIC DRIVE, in Prince County, begins near Summerside and leads to the western end of the Island where much history was made. Here, you will meet the Micmac Indians of Lennox Island and the Acadians of the Evangéline region, discover the origins of the shipbuilding and silver-fox fur industries, see Irish moss being harvested and world-famous Malpeque oysters raked from the sea bottom. The drive is 288 km (180 miles) long.



THE BLUE HERON SCENIC DRIVE winds around central Queens County, revealing red shores in the south, white beaches and dunes along the north shore and a wealth of activity throughout. Beginning and ending in Charlottetown, the drive includes historic landmarks, theatre, the National Park area and Cavendish where Lucy Maud Montgomery placed her fictional heroine *Anne of Green Gables*, famous lobster suppers and thousands of acres of P.E.I. potatoes. The drive is 190 km (120 miles) long.



THE KINGS BYWAY SCENIC DRIVE, longest of the routes, has something of everything: tall capes and long white beaches, deep inlets and harbours, historic sites and acres of tobacco, blueberries, strawberries and potatoes. You can see Nova Scotia from East Point, buy lobster at a wharf, try for tuna at North Lake harbour, the *Tuna Capital of the World*, visit a fisheries museum, buffalo park and bird sanctuary or tour a lighthouse. The drive is 375 km (234 miles) long.



Fredericton



Near Lakeside



Kildare Capes

Architecture

Prince Edward Island's most famous architect, William Critchlow Harris (1854-1913), left a pleasing and distinctive mark on the province's landscape. Numerous *Harris* houses and 16 of his churches are still standing today. In wood or red Island stone, the solid yet graceful structures are often distinguished by tudor arches, round towers,

bisecting roofs and buttresses.

Also easily identified, particularly along the Lady Slipper Scenic Drive, are "fox houses," the term loosely describing a style of opulent three-storey home with pillars and porches built for a few fabulously wealthy fox farmers in the early part of this century.

Across the province, many farmhouses reflect the Victorian influence of the last century: modest in size with high gables, dormer windows and "gingerbread" ornamental trim. Many are shingled and painted white.



Rusticoville



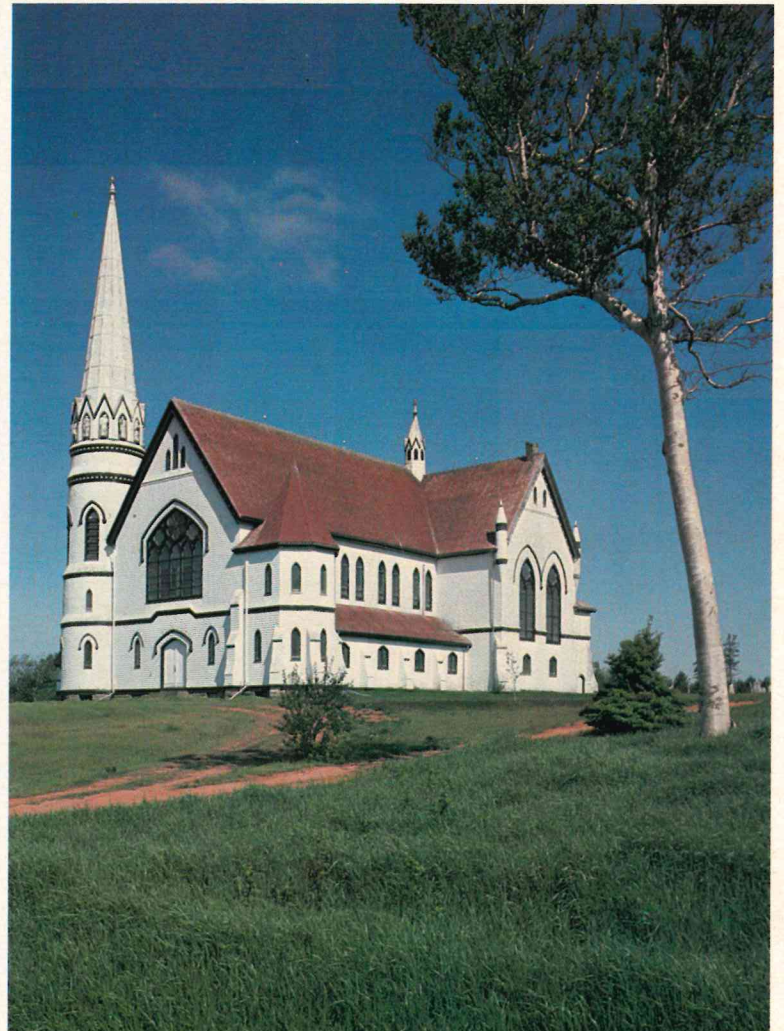
Charlottetown



Georgetown



Port Hill



Indian River

Industry

Traditionally, the Island economy has relied heavily on the farming and fishing industries — and does to this day, with increasing emphasis on small manufacturing and tourism, the hospitality industry.

Shipbuilding in the 19th century and then silver-fox fur production in the early part of this century brought a certain prosperity to the Island, as did the fishery — particularly lobster and oyster production.

Agriculture is still the leading industry. Over 770,000 tonnes of P.E.I. seed and table potatoes are produced annually for shipment to domestic and world markets. Dairy, hogs and beef are the next major contributors. Tourism, the Island's second largest industry, attracts over 600,000 visitors annually and provides major spin-off effects for the economy. In the fishing industry, lobster remains the single most important of 30 varieties harvested. Over 5400 tonnes are landed yearly, followed by ocean perch and herring. The migratory bluefin tuna is also a contributor, along with world-famous Malpeque oysters and, more recently, cultured mussels. Irish moss, a seaplant raked from the ocean floor, is used as a thickening agent in food, cosmetics and industrial products around the world.



Conway Narrows



P.E.I. Potatoes



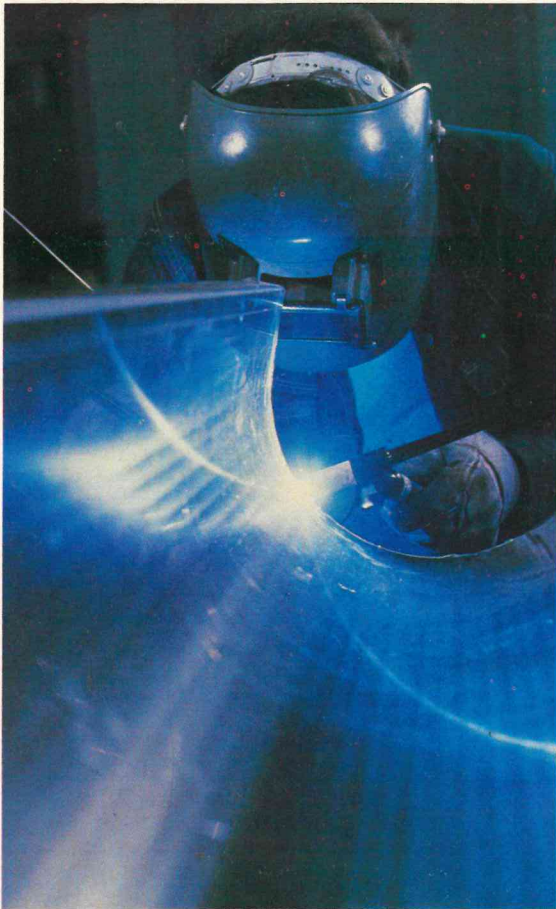
Visitor Information Centre



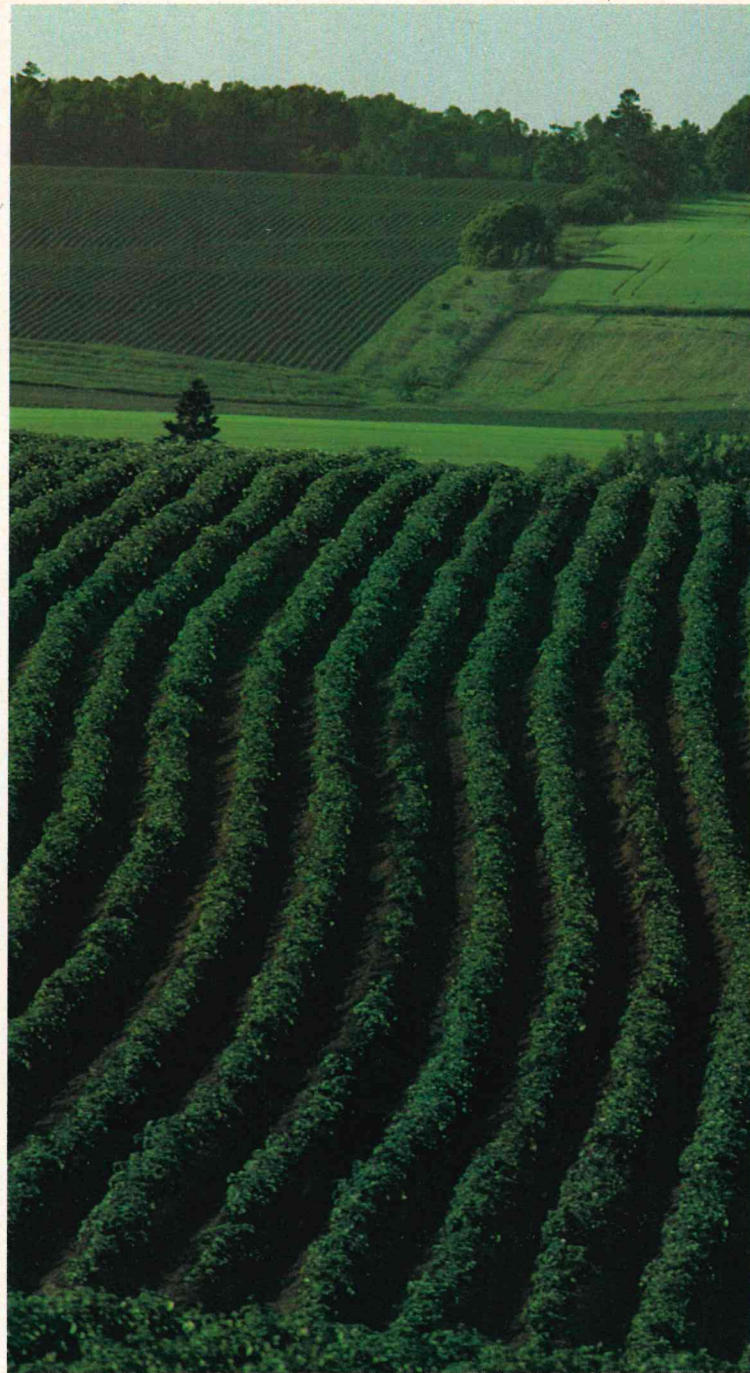
Beach Point



Elite Seed Farm, Fox Island

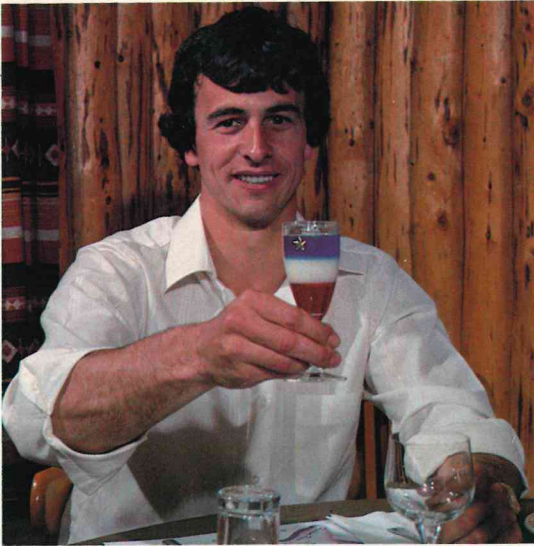


Irish Moss



Potato Crop

Heritage & Handcrafts



Mont-Carmel



Orwell Corner

Almost 2000 years ago, the Micmac Indians established a pattern of migration whereby they hunted on the mainland during winter and in the summers fished and camped on what is now Prince Edward Island. They knew it as "Minegoo," handed down from the Great Spirit. Seventeen centuries were to pass before Europeans actually settled here, although they had anchored in the inlets of the Island's east shore and fished the Gulf waters for over a hundred years. The French (and Acadian French from Nova Scotia) were the first to build permanent settlements. The British followed, soldiers first who erected Fort Amherst over the ruins of Port La Joie, then Scottish and Irish settlers.

The ethnic influences of Micmac, Acadian and British and their traditions of music, dress and language have survived to the present.

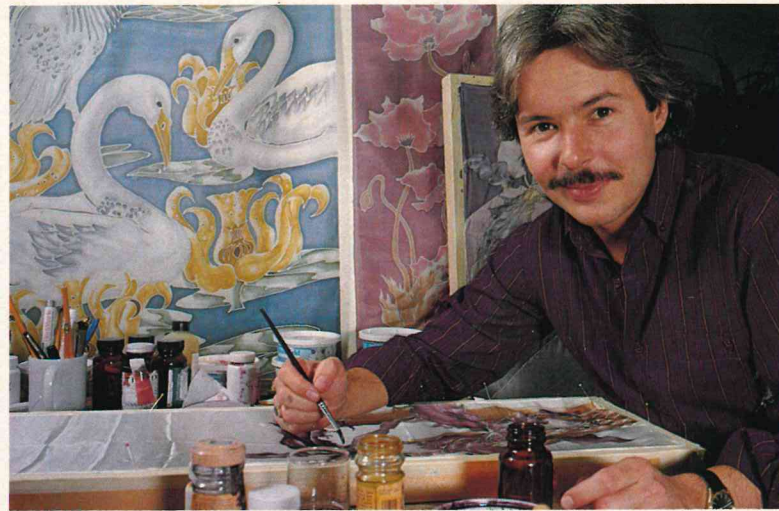
So, too, have authentic craft traditions such as quilting, beadwork, carving and basket making, influenced now by modern trends to mutual advantage. Over 75 artisans in craft studios across the province turn out pottery, leather work, weaving, wood work, batik, glass blowing and jewellery for display and sale in shops and at the annual province-wide craft fairs.



"Micmac Indians," by anonymous Canadian artist, c. 1820 (National Gallery)



Quilting



Batik



Pottery



Wood Working

Parks & Camping

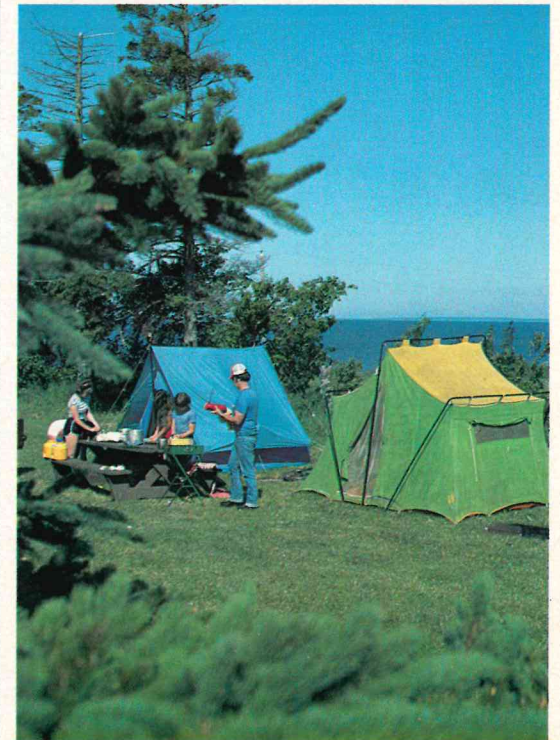
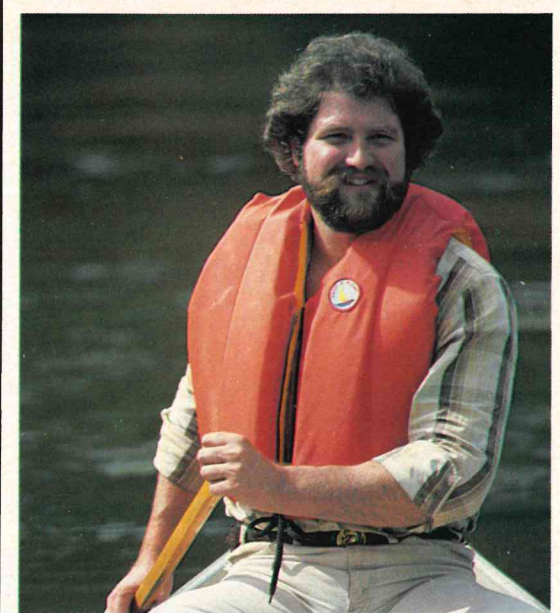
On Prince Edward Island they go together like a clear morning and great blue herons moving in slow motion through the shallows . . . the day's catch and fragrant smoke rising straight up from cooking stoves . . . hot sand and cooling salt water. . .

You can camp on the Island at any one of 60 scenic locations, including three in the National

Park, over a dozen in the provincial parks and at a host of private campgrounds. Some are nestled in the green countryside, others beside the ocean. You can rough it or opt for all the conveniences and organized recreation too. The Island is campers' paradise for families or just friends.



Brudenell River



Eldon



Brackley



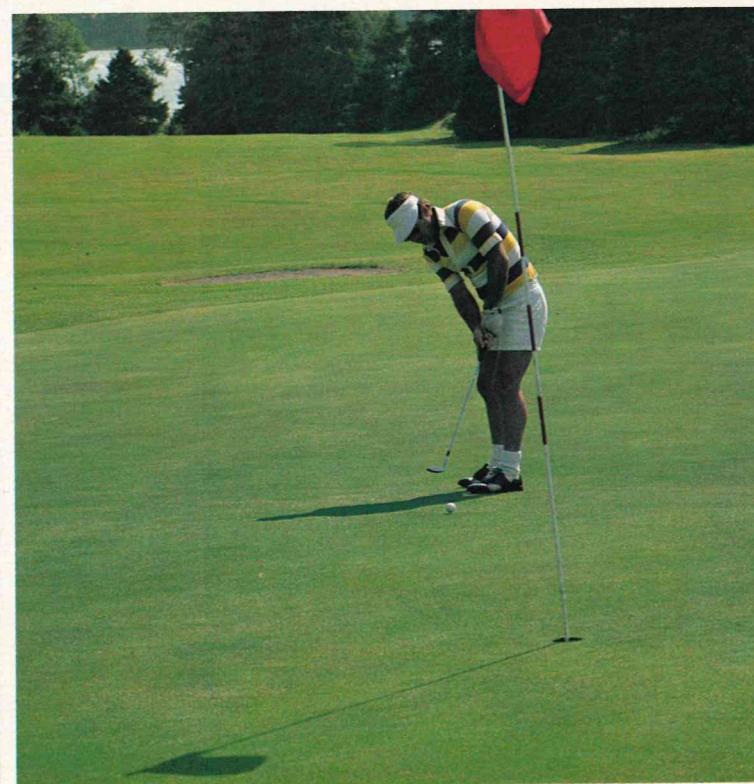
Red Point Beach



Crowbush Cove



The South Shore



Along the Coast

Dozens of fishing villages dot the Island's coastline, little changed in appearance and character over the last 100 years. Over 3200 fishermen and their helpers earn a livelihood from the sea, their graceful *cape islander* boats leaving a lasting impression of steadiness and fortitude as they chug from Island wharves toward the open water.

Lighthouses are also familiar coastal landmarks.

The oldest of 60 operating on the Island is the Point Prim light, which has befriended sailors since 1846. Although several lighthouses are still tended by keepers who "live in," all send their signals automatically now. Each light has an individual flash/eclipse sequence and beam colour to identify it for boat captains up to 30 km at sea.



West Point



Tracadie Harbour

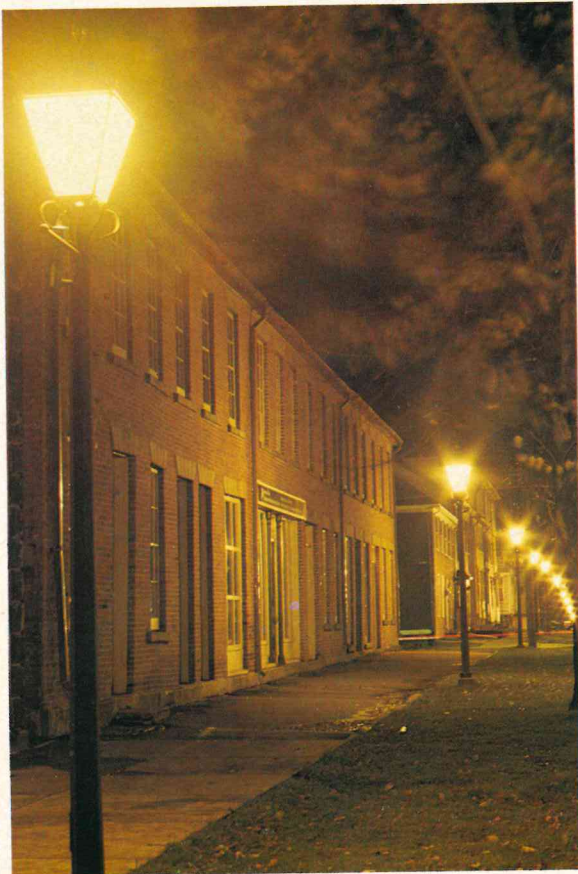
Town & Country

On Prince Edward Island they're practically one and the same. The province's population of 123,000 is distributed among eight towns (Summerside is the largest with 7800 residents), 30 villages, several hundred small communities and harbours, and the capital city of Charlottetown. With the surrounding populace, Charlottetown's 28,000 residents support a wide range of businesses, modern services, cultural activities, entertainment and shopping.

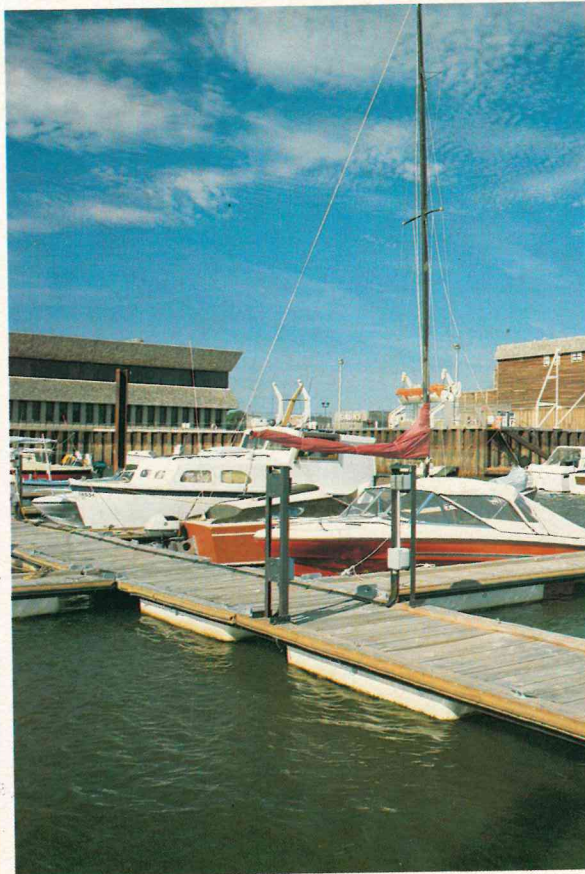
The Island's gentle countryside is characterized by low green hills, red soil and neat farms, many of them close to the sea.



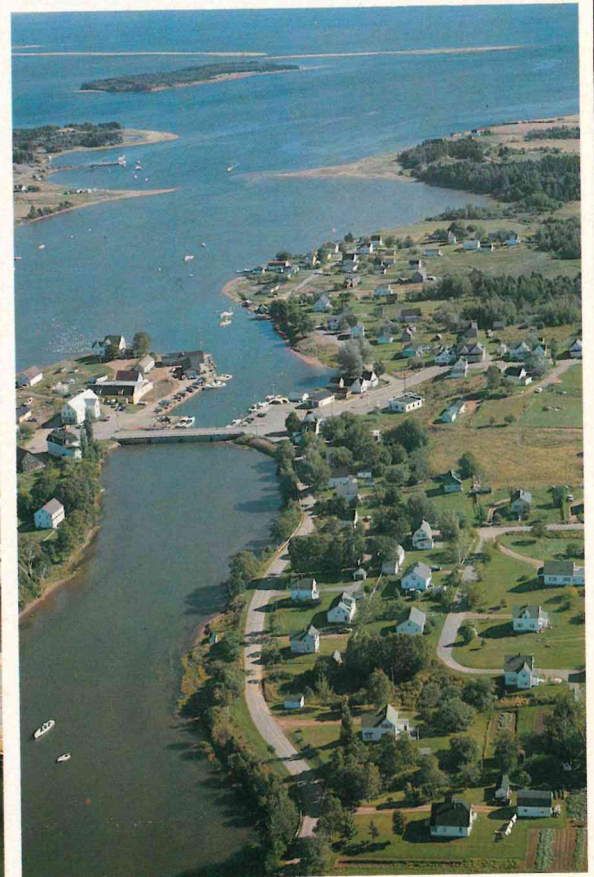
Charlottetown



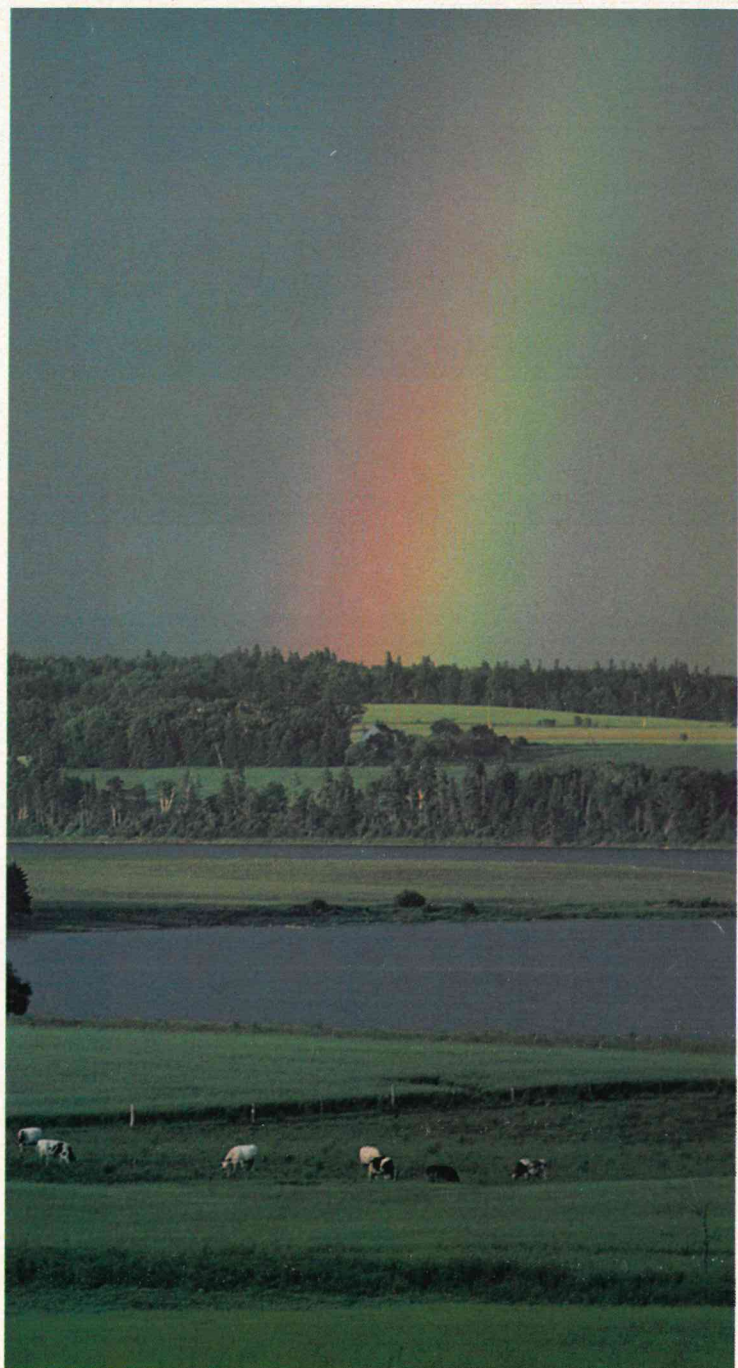
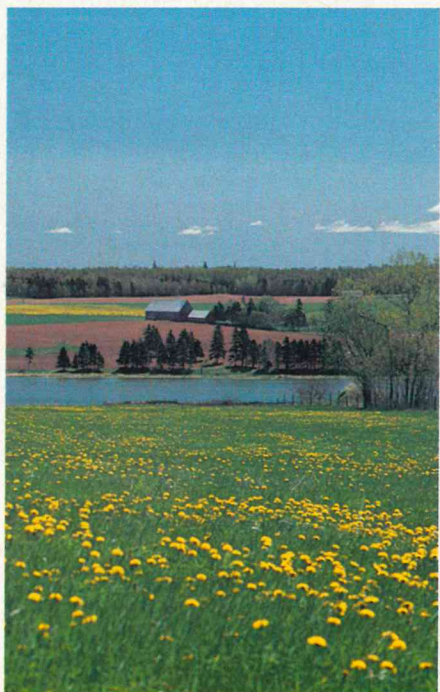
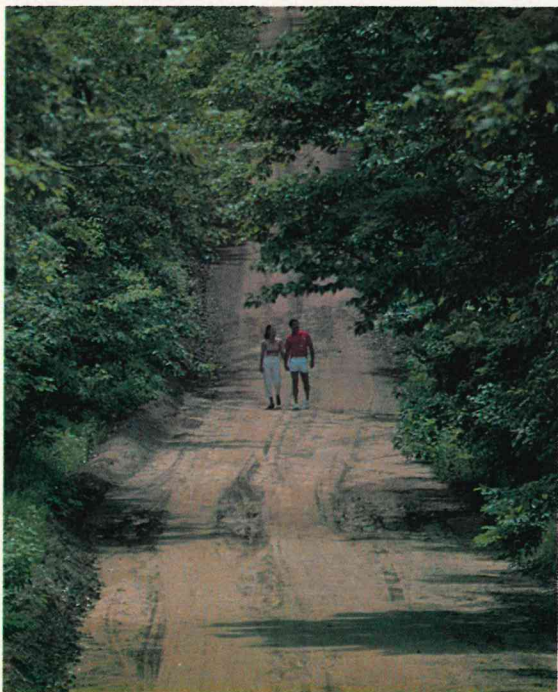
Charlottetown



Summerside



Murray Harbour



Dining & Accommodations

There are 650 friendly places to spend a holiday on Prince Edward Island — hotels, motels, resorts, farm-vacation homes, bed & breakfast and tourist homes, inns, lodges and over a thousand cottages — and not one of them is more than 16 km from salt water. Seclusion without isolation is one of our best features.

Dining on the Island is pleasurable and varied also. Most restaurants offer a complete menu, and many feature seafood. Most popular of all, perhaps, are community lobster suppers where fresh lobster is served hot or cold, dripping with drawn butter. Homemade bread, salads and desserts literally melt in the mouth.



Resorts



Hotels, Motels



Fine Dining



Farm Vacation and Bed & Breakfast Homes



Conventions

Meeting and convention facilities in Charlottetown can accommodate up to 1500 delegates with the completion of one of Atlantic Canada's largest hotel and convention complexes, the Prince Edward, in the fall of 1983. Another thousand can meet in the city's hotels and the Confederation Centre of the Arts. In Summerside, smaller groups are accommodated in comfortable, modern surroundings, with additional space available in several resort settings around the province. The Prince Edward Island Convention Bureau assists in planning numerous meetings and conventions each year.



Confederation Centre of the Arts

Entertainment



Thea MacNeill as "Anne of Green Gables"

It's everywhere on the Island in the summer — from name bands in nightclubs to Scottish and Acadian fiddle festivals, from step dancing and oyster shucking to strawberry or blueberry socials, celebration fireworks, country fairs, yacht races and harness racing. . .

And at the heart of summer entertainment is *Anne of Green Gables*, the beloved heroine of Lucy Maud Montgomery's novels whose fortunes are re-told annually to music during the famous Charlottetown Festival. The 1100-seat theatre in the Confederation Centre of the Arts has been sold out since the show opened in 1964. Two new musicals play with *Anne* each summer in the Centre. There is also cabaret theatre in Charlottetown and repertory theatre in the communities of Georgetown and Victoria.



Charlottetown



Acadian Festival, Abram-Village



Harness Racing

Attractions

There are scores of man-made attractions on Prince Edward Island designed to delight both adults and children. They range from the amusing

to the historic, from science to culture and tours to live theatre. See one or see them all!



Yeo House, Green Park



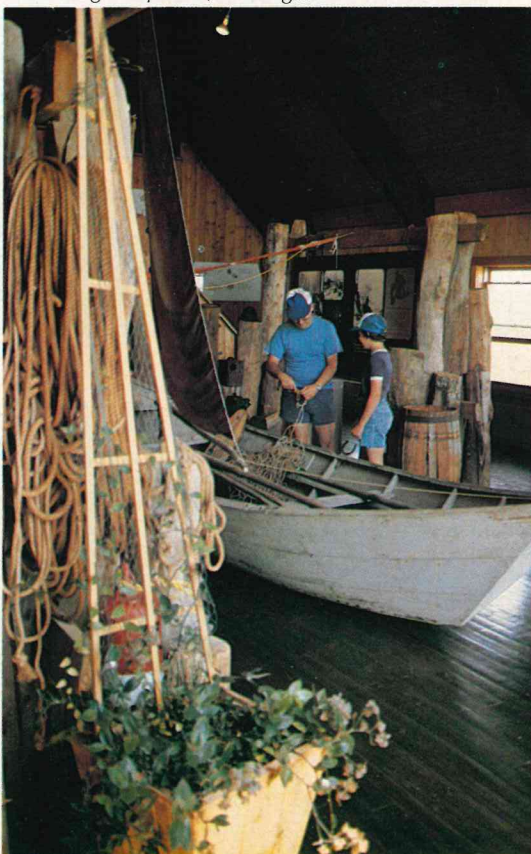
Green Gables House



Marine Aquarium



Woodleigh Replicas, Burlington



Basin Head Fisheries Museum



Province House, Charlottetown

Seasons

As summer draws to a close, the Island's raiment changes from deepest green to grain gold and the other warm hues of autumn. Then the stark purity of winter white blankets the earth for a while,

softening contours, and only gradually releasing rich soil reds and the delicate tracery of new spring leaves to begin the glad cycle again.



Prince Edward Island at a Glance

Indian Name Abegweit: "land . . . cradled on the waves"
Time Zone Atlantic
Longitude 62° to 64°30'
Latitude 46° to 47°
Altitude Sea level to 137 m (452 ft.) at Springton
Length 224 km (140 mi.)
Width 6 to 64 km (4 to 40 mi.)
Area 567 000 hectares/1,400,000 acres/2000 sq. mi.
Soil Red, due to iron oxide which "rusts" on exposure to air
Climate Temperate
Temperature 4-30°C (40-86°F) summer; -21 to 6°C (-7 to 44°F) winter
Population 123,000
Ethnic Influences . British 81%, French 14%, Dutch 1%, Micmac .4%
Counties Prince, Queens, Kings
City Charlottetown
Towns Summerside, Parkdale, Montague, Souris, Kensington, Alberton, Georgetown, Borden
Villages 30
Mileage In kilometres since 1977 (1 mile = 1.6 km)
Roads 3592 km paved; 1686 km unpaved

Mainland Connections By ferry between New Brunswick (45 min.) and Nova Scotia (75 min.)
Airlines Air Canada, Eastern Provincial Airways, plus local and charter services
Provincial Bird Bluejay
Provincial Flower . Lady's Slipper orchid
Major Political Parties Progressive Conservative Party, Liberal Party, New Democratic Party
Senators 4
MP's 4 Members of Parliament
MLA's 32 Members of the Legislative Assembly
Major Industries .. Agriculture, tourism, the fishery
Secondary Industries Irish moss, small manufacturing, tobacco
Liquor Outlets 13 provincial government (Liquor Control Commission) outlets, including 3 in Charlottetown
Daily Newspapers . Guardian, Evening Patriot, Journal-Pioneer
Weekly Newspapers Eastern Graphic, La Voix Acadienne, West Prince Graphic

Radio Stations CFCY (630), CHTN (1190), CJRW (1240), CBCT-FM (96.9), Q93-FM (91.3), CBAFT-FM French (88.8)
Golf Courses 10, of which 7 are 18-hole, 3 are 9-hole
Beaches Plentiful, red sand and white
Display Centres ... At Pooles Corner, Port Hill, Rocky Point, Basin Head and Wilmot
Provincial Parks .. 34, including 14 overnight
Private Parks 40
National Park 45 km long on the North Shore, includes 3 campgrounds
Animals Small fur-bearing animals
Birds of Prey Hawks, owls, falcons
Water Fowl Black ducks, Canada geese, teal ducks
Fresh-water Fish .. Brook trout, rainbow trout, Atlantic salmon
Salt-water Fish Cod, mackerel, red fish, hake, flounder, herring
Big-game Fish Giant bluefin tuna
Fresh Seafood 35 outlets around the Island

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Fishing for Gaspereaux near Sea View